

Guatemala



Short-term Faculty-led Study Away Program • Summer Intersession • June 4 - July 2,* 2012

Course Name:

Anthropology Field Experience in Guatemala

Course Number: **ANT 490**

Credit hours: **3-6*** (undergraduate)

Course Overview & Highlights

Participants in this program will

- gain first-hand knowledge of modern and traditional Guatemalan cultures by staying with local families, studying both Spanish and *Tz'utujil* Mayan languages, and touring diverse Mayan villages surrounding Lago de Atitlan
- examine various forms of tourism and their economic, environmental and cultural impacts
- acquire an overview of Guatemala's geography, climate, natural resources, biodiversity, and agricultural practices
- explore pre-Columbian archaeological sites, the Spanish colonial city of Antigua, and Chichicastenango on market day; hike one of Guatemala's 37 majestic volcanoes; students on the 4-week program also will visit the Mayan ruins at Tikal
- see how diverse religious and cultural traditions have found expression through the architecture, arts, crafts, music and literature of Guatemala
- gain a deeper understanding of the country's tumultuous history, how the current sociopolitical structure evolved and what forces are shaping its future

Estimated Cost

2-week program: \$ **861.00**

4-week program: \$ **1,632.50**

Includes: ground transportation, lodging, most meals, Spanish & Mayan language immersion classes, historical/cultural tours & activities, weekend excursions, guided hikes, and MSU Study Away student fee. Separated costs not available.

Excludes: MSU tuition for 3 or 6 hours of undergraduate credit*; airfare, some meals, and misc. personal expenses.

Nonrefundable deposit due with application by **Mon., Feb. 27, 2012**

2-week program: \$ **130.00**

4-week program: \$ **245.00**

(will be billed to your student account)

Balance due **Mon., May 7, 2012**

2-week program: \$ **731.00**

4-week program: \$ **1,387.50**

* Students may register for 3 or 6 credit hours.
The 3-hour course includes 2 weeks of study in Guatemala; the 6-hour option includes 4 weeks.

Pre-travel Orientations (choose one):

1 p.m. Tues., Feb. 7, 2012

6 p.m. Thurs., Feb. 9, 2012

at Mud House coffee shop, 323 South Ave.

Depart Springfield for Guatemala City

Mon., June 4, 2012

* Depart Guatemala City for Springfield:

Mon., June 18 (3 credit hour course)

Mon., July 2 (6 credit hour course)

Interested in going?

Contact Program Director Jason Shepard,
Department of Sociology and Anthropology,
at jason421@live.missouristate.edu or
836-5640 for more information.



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Study Away!

Missouri State University Study Away Programs

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Course Objectives & Activities

Guatemala is a land of contrasts. From the tropical coastal plains to the mountainous highlands, from rural villages to cosmopolitan Guatemala City, the country's vast ecological and cultural diversity make it fertile ground for a unique anthropological field experience.

While in Guatemala, students will live with native families in the Mayan village of San Pedro la Laguna on beautiful Lake Atitlan. These home stay arrangements will be organized in advance by the Program Director.

Students will attend 20 hours per week of immersion classes in Spanish and *Tz'utujil*, one of 24 recognized languages still spoken by descendants of the region's indigenous Mesoamerican peoples. The 2-week program includes 40 hours and the 4-week program includes 60 hours of instruction at San Pedro La Laguna Spanish School <<http://www.sanpedrospanishschool.org/>>.

Readings and class discussions will be illuminated by visits to significant cultural, archaeological and geological sites, led by the Program Director and local guides. Excursions will include the Spanish colonial city of Antigua; the colorful outdoor market at Chichicastenango; boat and walking tours of Mayan villages around Lake Atitlan; and a volcano hike. Students on the 4-week program will take a multi-day, cross-country trip to the ancient Mayan city of Tikal.

In addition, the class will explore the effects of various types of tourism on the land and people of Guatemala and will have the opportunity to participate in a mix of eco, history, heritage and ethnic tourism events.

Throughout the program, students will meet regularly with the Program Director for discussions, planning and journal reviews.

Course Schedule & Itinerary

Pre-travel Orientation Sessions covering course content, conduct and expectations:

1 p.m. Tues., Feb. 7, 2012 OR

6 p.m. Thurs., Feb. 9, 2012

at Mud House coffee shop, 323 South Ave.

Mon., June 4, 2012 - Fly to Guatemala City; shuttle to the town of San Pedro la Laguna and meet host families

Tues., June 5 - Fri., June 8 - Morning language classes; afternoon class discussions and field experiences

Sat., June 9 & Sun., June 10 - Weekend excursions and events

Mon., June 11 - Fri., June 15 - Morning language classes; afternoon class discussions and field experiences

Sat., June 16 & Sun., June 17 - Weekend excursions and events

Mon., June 18 - Students participating in the 2-week program submit their final papers, travel by taxi to Guatemala City airport and return to Springfield.

Mon., June 18 - Fri., June 22 - Students participating in the 4-week program attend morning language classes and afternoon discussions and field experiences

Sat., June 23 & Sun., June 24 - Weekend excursions and events

Mon., June 25 - Sun., July 1 - cross-country trip to Tikal, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Mon., July 2 - Students participating in the 4-week program submit their final papers, travel by shuttle to Guatemala City airport and return to Springfield.

Course Requirements

Students must fulfill the academic requirements for the course as outlined below:

- Attend a pre-travel orientation session
- Participate in the intensive language classes, lectures and discussions, relevant excursions and other activities offered during the study tour
- Complete all assigned readings
- Maintain a daily field journal focusing on various forms of tourism and tourists in Guatemala and how they impact different groups. Write a 3- to 5-page paper summarizing these observations and detailing your personal experience in relationship to what you observed..

Required texts:

- *Mayas in the marketplace: tourism, globalization, and cultural identity*. Walter E. Little. University of Texas Press: 2004.
- *I, Rigoberta Menchu: An Indian Woman in Guatemala*. Rigoberta Menchú, Elisabeth Burgos-Debray. Verso Press:1984.

Assessment of learning - Students will be evaluated based upon the content and organization of their daily journals and reflection papers. Grades will be pass/fail.

Application & Payment Procedures:

Missouri State University students who are approved by the Program Director may apply. Instructions are included on program application.

A **non-refundable deposit of \$130** (2-week program) or **\$245** (4-week program) will be billed to your student account upon application. The balance of the program cost will be billed to your account on **May 7, 2012**.

The published program cost is based on rates in effect on the publication date of this flyer and may be subject to change.

Program participants agree to a potential increase of up to 10% in the program fee if costs increase before or during travel.

Cancellation & Refund Policies:

- Students who withdraw prior to **April 30, 2012** will receive a refund of fees paid, less their deposit and any non-refundable purchases made on his/her behalf.
- If a student is forced to withdraw after **April 30** for a bona fide medical reason, s/he will receive a refund of fees paid, less their deposit and expenses. A certificate of incapacitating illness or injury from a licensed physician is required.
- Students withdrawing voluntarily after **April 30**, or withdrawing due to medical reasons not protected under the fees refund policy, receive no refund.
- Once the program has started, students withdrawing receive no refund under any circumstances.
- All notifications of withdrawal must be made in writing and sent to the Program Director and to Elizabeth Strong at the Study Away Office, Jim D. Morris Center, Suite 403. **Non-payment of fees does not guarantee automatic withdrawal.**
- Any plans by a participant not to travel and return with the group must also be submitted in writing to the Program Director and the Study Away Office.
- The program may be cancelled if enrollment is fewer than 10 participants. In this event, students will receive a full refund.

Voucher Eligibility & Financial Aid

If you entered MSU as a freshman in 2009 or 2010, you may use the **Study Away \$500 voucher**. Students who receive financial aid through MSU may apply that aid to the program, if eligible. Contact the Office of Financial Aid at **836-5262** for more information.